

In the Claims:

1           1. – 11. (canceled)

1           12. (currently amended) A Bragg reflector comprising:  
2           one or more first layers adjacent one or more second layers, the first and second layers  
3           having at least one sidewall, wherein the first and second layers define one or more gaps; and  
4           a support layer formed over a portion of the sidewalls to support the second layers  
5           against movement. ~~against collapse into the one or more gaps.~~

1           13. (original) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein the second layers and the  
2           support layer comprise substantially the same material.

1           14. (original) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein at least a portion of the  
2           support layer is electrically conductive.

1           15. (previously presented) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein a portion of the  
2           support layer is electrically non-conductive.

1           16. (currently amended) A distributed Bragg reflector comprising:  
2           a substrate;  
3           a plurality of structure layers on the substrate each spaced apart by a gap, the  
4           structure layers each having edges; and  
5           a support layer about a portion of the edges for supporting the structure layers  
6           such that the structure layers remain stationary.

1           17. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 further comprising  
2   sacrificial layers between the structure layers, the sacrificial layers undercut to define the  
3   gaps.

1           18. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the support layer  
2   comprises a material selected from the group consisting of InP, GaAs, and Si.

1           19. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the structure layers  
2   comprise a material selected from the group consisting of InP, GaAs, and Si.

1           20. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the support layer  
2   covers at least a portion of a top of the structure layers.

1           21. (new)     The Bragg reflector of claim 12, wherein the support layer holds said  
2   second layers substantially parallel to each other.

1           22. (new)     The Bragg reflector of claim 12, wherein the support layer partially  
2   overlaps a top side of a top layer of said one or more second layers.

1           23. (new)     The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16, wherein the support layer  
2   further holds said plurality of structure layers substantially parallel to each other.

1           24. (new)     The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16, wherein the support layer  
2     partially overlaps a top side of a top structure layer.

1           25. (new)     A distributed Bragg reflector comprising:  
2                     a substrate;  
3                     a plurality of structure layers on the substrate each spaced apart by a gap, the  
4     structure layers each having edges and being substantially parallel to each other; and  
5                     a support layer about a portion of the edges for supporting the structure layers.

1           26. (new)     A distributed Bragg reflector comprising:  
2                     a substrate;  
3                     a plurality of structure layers on top of the substrate each spaced apart by a  
4     gap, the structure layers each having edges; and  
5                     a support layer being about a portion of the edges and overlapping a top  
6     portion of a top structure layer.